

MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

Success Stories from the Field

Intersil Corporation

Florida Manufacturing Extension Partnership

Intersil Trains Employees In Record Time

Client Profile:

Intersil Corporation, a world leader in the design and manufacture of high-performance analog semiconductors, became an independent company in 1999. The company became publically owned in February 2000 in the largest initial public offering (IPO) for a U.S. semiconductor firm, and today is a leading provider of analog integrated circuits for power management, flat panel display, and optical storage (CD and DVD recordable) markets. Located in Melbourne, Florida, the company retains a workforce of 400 people.

Situation:

As a progressive manufacturer, Intersil recognized the need to provide continuing education and training to its employees. After making the decision to close a Findley, Ohio facility and relocate several technologies to the Florida facility, the company needed to successfully hire and train 181 new workers. Intersil contacted the Florida Manufacturing Extension Partnership (Florida MEP), a NIST MEP network affiliate, to ask for help training new employees in management process improvement, workstation ergonomics, statistical process control, design of experiments, software upgrades, and equipment maintenance.

Solution:

Florida MEP helped Intersil facilitate the design of ergonomic workstations for operators' comfort and safety, and then trained operators in safe work methods. Using both internal workshops and online interactive training courses, Florida MEP helped Intersil increase employee understanding of statistical process control, design of experiments, and manufacturing process concepts and techniques, all of which enhance work flow and improve the end product. Florida MEP also provided user training on the newly implemented software. Florida MEP completed all the training in less than three months, and Intersil's new employees are operating at peak level.

Results:

Trained 181 new employees.
Saved \$225,000 in costs while improving employee skills.

Testimonial:

www.mep.nist.gov



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"Working with the Florida Manufacturing Extension Partnership provided Intersil a cost effective way to train our employees for the new products brought to our facility that have increased the productivity of Intersil as well as the health of the Florida economy."

Bill Smoak, Director-Fab59 Manufacturing Operations